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OKEHAMPTON RURAL DISTRICT

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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE

YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1955

Underhill (Plymouth) Ltd., Printers. Works: Regent Street

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF

Medical Officer of Health:

E. D. ALLEN-PRICE, M.D., D.P.H.

Sanitary Inspector:

L. E. LETHBRIDGE, C.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

Additional Sanitary Inspector:

H. W. SILLIFANT, A.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

Engineer and Surveyor:

L. G. BAILEY, F.F.S. (Eng.)

Technical Assistant:

I. G. CANN

Clerks in the Department:

T. MARSHALL

MISS M. L. BRAY

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Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my annual report on the health and sanitary circumstances of your district for the year ending 31st December, 1955, in accordance with the instructions of the Ministry of Health.

The general health of the district was good throughout the year, and the only epidemic condition prevailing was that of measles amongst the younger population. This outbreak was somewhat complicated by a concurrent outbreak of rubella, or german measles, which attacked both the child and adult population.

The population of the district remained static.

The number of births was below the average, with a resulting fall in the birth rate. However, this was balanced by a considerably lower death rate than that for England and Wales as a whole.

The infant mortality rate was the lowest on record.

The vital statistics, when corrected, are very favourable and are set out in the accompanying tables.

SECTION 'A'

General Statistics

Area (in acres)	132,535
Population—1931 Census	12,853
Population—1951 Census	12,621
Estimated Home Population—Mid 1955 ...	12,160
Number of Inhabited Houses	4,018
Rateable Value	£54,238
Product of Penny Rate	£211
Loan Debt	£361,478

Vital Statistics

	Male	*Female*	*Total*
Live Births	65	70	135
Legitimate	62	68	
Illegitimate	3	2	

		England and Wales
Crude Birth Rate per 1,000 population ...	10.1	15.0
Corrected Birth Rate	12.0	
Still Births	2	
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 live and still births ...	14.6	23.1

	Male	*Female*	*Total*
Deaths	83	78	161

		England and Wales
Crude Death Rate per 1,000 population ...	13.2	11.7
Corrected Death Rate	10.2	
Deaths from Maternal Causes	Nil	
Maternal Mortality	—	0.64
Deaths of Infants under 1 year	1	
Infant Mortality	7.4	24.9

Year	*Population*	*Birth Rate*	*Death Rate*
1946	12,320	17.9	12.9
1947	12,290	20.6	14.1
1948	12,300	17.2	12.8
1949	12,250	13.2	14.4
1950	12,340	14.3	14.3
1951	12,520	13.1	16.5
1952	12,320	13.1	12.7
1953	12,280	14.6	10.8
1954	12,160	12.7	14.8
1955	12,160	10.1	13.2

The chief causes of death were as follows:—

Infectious Causes:	
Influenza	2
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	1
Syphilitic Disease	1
General Causes:	
Heart Disease	48
Cerebral Vascular Disease	28
Cancer	21
Coronary Disease	14
Arteriosclerosis	12
Bronchitis	10
Disease of the Prostate	7
Gastric Ulcer	2
Nephritis	2
Pneumonia	2
Diabetes	1
Suicide	3
Accidental	1
Other Causes	5
Infants under 1 year:	
Pulmonary Atelectasis	1
TOTAL	161

Age of Death Table

Age at Death:	*Male*	*Female*
Infants under 1 year	–	1
1– 5 years	–	–
5–15 ,, ...	–	–
15–25 ,, ...	–	–
25–35 ,, ...	1	–
35–45 ,, ...	2	3
45–55 ,, ...	3	6
55–65 ,, ...	12	9
65–75 ,, ...	30	14
75 and over	35	45
TOTALS	83	78

SECTION 'B'

General Provision of Health Services

There was no change in the general provision of health services, and they continued to run smoothly.

The Ambulance Services, which are the responsibility of the County Council but which are manned by the St. John Ambulance Brigade, continued to give adequate and efficient service.

National Assistance Act, 1948. Fortunately, there was no need to make use of the provisions of Section 47 of this Act during the year. However, as I have remarked on previous occasions, better use could be made of the Home Help Service.

SECTION 'C'

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area

Mr. Lethbridge has been largely responsible for the preparation of this section of the report.

I would point out to the Council that it gives very little indication of the enormous amount of day-to-day detail which has to be dealt with in order that an efficient and satisfactory service to the district is maintained.

Water Supply

Attention is drawn to the comprehensive table at the end of the report, which sets out in detail the service to each parish in accordance with the Ministry's instructions.

Mr. Young, District Engineer to the North Devon Water Board, has submitted the following report on progress during the year in your district:

Belstone: Owing to the prolonged drought during the summer of 1955, this supply was restricted to six hours per day.

Bondleigh: A scheme for a main supply has now been approved by the Ministry and should commence in September, 1956. This includes a section of trunk main from Four Ways, Winkleigh, to Cadditon Cross, with a branch to Bondleigh.

Bridestowe: Mainlaying is now in progress from Bridestowe to Portgate. This will afford a main supply to all properties on that section of the main A.30 road, including Combebow.

Broadwoodkelly: A new main supply is now available from Ingleigh Green and serves Broadwoodkelly village and Splatt.

Exbourne. This supply is now connected to the trunk main at Monkokehampton.

Highampton: An extension from Highampton Church to Pulworthy has been approved and work will be commenced during the summer of 1956.

Iddesleigh: A main scheme supply is now available.

Inwardleigh: A main scheme supply to Inwardleigh and Folly Gate is now available.

Jacobstowe: Now served from the Board's trunk main at Monkokehampton.

Monkokehampton: Main water now available.

South Tawton: This supply was short during the drought of 1955. The intakes have been cleaned and repaired and manholes raised. This should improve the quantity of water available during dry periods.

The following samples were taken by the Board during the year:

Parish	*Total Samples Taken*	*Good*	*Fair*	*Bad*
Belstone	6	4	1	1
Bondleigh	1	–	–	1
Bridestowe	1	1	–	–
Broadwoodkelly	2	1	1	–
Chagford	4	3	–	1
Sandy Park	2	1	1	–
Drewsteignton	4	4	–	–
Exbourne	2	2	–	–
North Tawton	13	12	–	1
Sampford Courtenay (Sticklepath)	1	1	–	–
South Zeal	3	2	–	1
Spreyton	2	–	2	–
Throwleigh	6	6	–	–
TOTALS	47	37	5	5

Analysis of water supplies (public and private)

The following samples were taken by your Inspectors during the year:

	No. of Samples taken	*Passed*	*Failed*
Bacteriological Examination of Water ...	36	14	22
Chemical Analysis of Water	4	2	2
TOTALS ...	40	16	24

Chemical analysis of water supplying two properties at Sticklepath, owned by the County Council, revealed an unusually large trace of dissolved zinc from the pipes through which the water was drawn. Representations were made to the County Council on the matter, and the whole of the existing pipes are to be removed and replaced with alkathene.

The failure of a private water supply to six houses at Throwleigh was traced to a badly-corroded main. The matter was taken up with the owners concerned and the main was renewed with alkathene piping and the cost borne by the owners by mutual agreement.

Corroded pipes at Gidleigh were also the cause of an inadequate water supply which eventually failed. The Council referred the matter to the North Devon Water Board, who were asked to consider taking over the existing system and undertaking any necessary works to ensure an adequate and wholesome supply if mains water to the village was likely to be long delayed. The Board examined the matter, and it was referred to their Priority Committee for attention.

Investigations were made into a complaint that five properties at Forda, Sourton, were without a suitable water supply. Moorland streams used by the occupiers were being fouled and samples submitted for analysis revealed the water to be unfit for drinking purposes. A strong recommendation was sent by the Council to the North Devon Water Board that a mains supply should be made available to the properties.

Drainage and Sewerage

BELSTONE: On account of continued chokeages at Brenamoor Common, the effluent pipeline from the sewage tank was found to be uneven and silted up, with a number of pipes broken. The whole line of pipes was relaid, those broken renewed, and the sewage tank cleaned out. The Sanitary Officer reported to the Council that the improvements would be effective for the time being, but recommended that consideration should be given by the Council for a complete sewerage and sewage disposal scheme to deal with the built-up area of Belstone and Skaigh.

CHAGFORD: Final agreement was reached with the owners of the ground required for the sewage disposal works, both regarding its extent and layout, and the scheme, estimated to cost £49,408, was submitted to the Ministry for loan sanction. An informal inquiry was conducted by an Engineering Inspector of the Ministry during November, and the decision of the Ministry is now awaited.

EXBOURNE: The Ministry have intimated that the Council's modified proposals to deal with the sewerage and sewage disposal of the village have been approved in principle. They suggested the Council should approach the occupiers of farm buildings connected to the sewers with a view to an agreement being prepared to restrict the amount of farm drainage entering the sewers, and also to request contributions from the farmers concerned towards the cost of the scheme.

HATHERLEIGH: Outline plans of the proposed new disposal works indicating areas of ground required for works and separate pumping station have been prepared for submission to the District Valuer.

HIGHAMPTON: As part of the built-up area of this village is in Holsworthy Rural District, the Sanitary Officers of each authority have met and discussed the possibilities of a joint scheme.

MONKOKEHAMPTON: Ministry approval to the lowest tender of £3,865. 19s. 4d. for this scheme was received, but the firm subsequently withdrew. The next lowest tender of £4,076. 5s. 7d. was considered, but on account of the death of the Contractor this firm stated they were unable to undertake the work. Ministry approval was then sought and given for the acceptance of the next lowest tender, of £4,473. 8s. 6d., and the whole contract was carried out and completed by 1st December, 1955.

NORTHLEW: The Consulting Engineers completed outline drawings for a scheme to deal with the bulk of the built-up area of the village at an estimated cost of £11,611, and this scheme has been submitted to the Ministry for loan sanction.

NORTH TAWTON: Negotiations with the owner of the proposed sewage disposal site resulted in agreement on price, but the Ministry asked that the outline scheme be forwarded to them for consideration before the site be acquired. This has been done, but further delay is due to negotiations proceeding for a pumping station site at the bottom of the town. The estimated cost of the scheme is £41,035.

SAMPFORD COURTENAY: A scheme to deal with the drainage of unsewered properties in the village has been dealt with in two sections. One part dealing with properties at the higher end of the village, mainly an extension of the existing sewer to the Village Hall, was estimated by the Health Department to cost £615. The Council decided not to proceed with this part of the scheme because owners of properties *en route* would either not contribute towards the cost or not give an assurance that they would connect if the sewer was provided. Drawings for the other part of the scheme are in hand, all necessary levels for sewer lines having been taken and the proposed site for disposal works decided upon.

SOURTON: Complete drawings and engineering data for a scheme of sewerage and sewage disposal for the built-up area of the village have been prepared by the Council's Sanitary Officers and submitted to the Ministry for loan sanction. The estimated cost of the scheme is £4,525.

SOUTH ZEAL: Because of unsatisfactory drainage arrangements at the Rising Sun Inn, Sticklepath, the possibility of extending the sewer to this property was considered by the Council. A scheme providing for the connection of the Inn and six other properties *en route*, at an estimated cost of £1,300, was prepared by the Health Department, but the Council decided that if the scheme was to proceed, 75 per cent of the cost should be borne by the owner of the inn. His decision is now awaited.

Sanitary Inspection of the District

The following table sets out the inspections, etc., carried out by the Inspectors during the year. 116 recorded complaints of nuisances were received and investigated.

Types of Premises	*No. of Inspections*	*No. of Intimation Notices Served or given*	*No. of Intimation Notices complied with*
Houses inspected	233	53	52
Houses reinspected	195	—	—
Premises other than houses and not mentioned below	137	40	39
Ice cream	18	3	3
Other food premises	55	8	10
Dairies	13	2	2
Refuse tips	54	—	—
Public conveniences	74	—	—
Water supplies	112	26	25
Drainage	219	—	—
Sewerage	416	—	—
Infectious diseases	7	—	—
Petroleum Acts	29	1	1
Slaughterhouses	592	13	11
Miscellaneous	117	—	—
TOTALS	2,271	146	143

One Statutory Notice was served under Section 93 of the Public Health Act.

Rodent Control

First inspections, reinspections and visits for treatments:

Private houses	2,738
Business premises	418
Sewers and sewage outfalls	142
Refuse tips	36
Agricultural properties	1,802
TOTAL ...	5,136

Number of bodies recovered after treatments: 1,160.
Total number of baiting points: 8,670.
Types of poison used: ANTU, Warfarin, Zinc Phosphide, Arsenic and Red Squill.

The number of complaints of rat and mice infestation received during the year was 35.

Refuse Collection and Disposal

Because of rising costs, the Refuse Contractor intimated that his tender figure would have to be increased if he was to continue with the refuse disposal contract. Figures submitted were carefully analysed by the Health Department and submitted in detail to the Council, who accepted them.

By a readjustment of routes, most of the applications received during the year for refuse collection facilities were included within the new contract figure. A further 55 properties were thus afforded refuse collection and Belstone provided with a fortnightly collection throughout the year.

The annual cost of the new scheme will be £1,661. 16s. 6d.

Factories Acts, 1937 and 1948

1. Inspections

Premises (*i*)	*Number on Register* (*ii*)	*Number of*		
		Inspections (*iii*)	*Written Notices* (*iv*)	*Occupiers Prosecuted* (*v*)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ...	42	44	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the local Authority ...	—	—	—	—
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	—	—	—	—
Total	42	44	—	—

2. Cases in which Defects were Found

Particulars (i)	Number of cases in which defects were found: Found (ii)	Remedied (iii)	Referred: To H.M. Inspector (iv)	By H.M. Inspector (v)	Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (vi)
Want of Cleanliness ...	10	10	–	–	–
Overcrowding	–	–	–	–	–
Unreasonable Temperature	–	–	–	–	–
Inadequate Ventilation	–	–	–	–	–
Ineffective drainage of floors ...	–	–	–	–	–
Sanitary Conveniences: (*a*) Insufficient	–	1	–	–	–
(*b*) Unsuitable or defective	–	1	–	–	–
(*c*) Not separate for sexes ...	–	–	–	–	–
Other offences	–	–	–	–	–
Total ...	10	12	–	–	–

Outwork

Nature of Work	No. of out-workers in August list required by Section 110 (1) (*c*)
Wearing Apparel—Making, etc.	7

SECTION 'D'

Housing

As required by the provisions of Section 1 of the Housing Repairs and Rents Acts, 1954, and, after consideration of a report prepared by their Sanitary Officers, the Council submitted proposals to the Minister for dealing with houses which appear to be unfit for human habitation.

Briefly summarised, the information forwarded was as follows:

Estimated number of houses unfit for human habitation	90
Estimated number of houses which are to be included in Clearance Areas and demolished	5
Estimated number of houses to be demolished under Section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936	34
Period in which houses might be dealt with ...	5 years

Mr. Bailey, Engineer and Surveyor, has submitted the following Report for the year:

Housing. The completion of the fourteen Bailey-Stratton dwellings at Broadwoodkelly, Chagford, Exbourne and Iddesleigh brings the Council's post-war housing programme to an end, except where further houses will be required in the replacement of slum-cleared properties.

It may be interesting to record that since the Council's early experiment in low-cost housing, the 1955–56 basic costs have been kept to the levels of £788 and £918 for two- and three-bedroomed houses respectively, which are understood to be the lowest basic costs in Local Authority building throughout the country.

Improvement Grants. The operation of the Improvement Grants Scheme under Section 20 of the Housing Act, 1949, has already had an influence on housing conditions in the district, particularly in the smaller villages and outlying areas where many properties which would have otherwise continued to deteriorate have been brought to a good standard.

The number of applications to the end of December, 1955, totalled 125, and included 67 "outline" and 36 final approvals. Of the first total, 14 proposed schemes have been rejected as being non-applicable, or not conforming to the standards or requirements of the Council.

The Council's Committee visited each property for the purpose of investigating the applications, and provided the Council with complete preliminary reports with recommendations on each related property. The work of this Committee has been arduous and painstaking, often meeting on two and three occasions each month in order to carry out site inspections and to deal with the many matters which must arise during ensuing progress of the works.

Town and Country Planning. The number of applications for development requiring planning approval have totalled 207 over the past twelve months, as shown in the following schedule:—

Conversions and adaptations	64
Farm buildings	31
New properties	73
Advertisements	7
Others	32

From the foregoing it will be of interest to note the rate of development progress of the Rural District, a position which justified the Council's earlier views on population trends in this part of Devon.

The setting-up of a Plans Committee shows the increasing interest of the Council in planning matters, and has been of great value in the consideration of draft schemes and maps, as in the case of Chagford, where joint consultations with the Planning Authority are now taking place.

Housing Maintenance. The Council's pre-war properties are gradually being brought to a more modern standard by providing such amenities as mains water supplies, hot water services, modern cooking and washing appliances, etc., where desired by tenants, and on the basis of proportionate increased rentals. During the year 36 properties have been connected to mains water, but complications have arisen because existing house drainage schemes have proved inadequate to accept the increased flow. In most cases where extended drainage schemes have been provided in an effort to deal with this problem, the restricted areas for effluent distribution and disposal, mainly on to land in other ownerships, have necessitated works which are out of all proportion to the number of houses involved. The increased use of water has been so great that the land absorption ratio has fallen to a ratio to be incapable of accepting the flow, and has resulted in the need for periodic emptying of the septic tanks except in cases where facilities have been granted to allow of discharge streams.

From these experiences it would seem that although a mains water supply is very desirable, the problems caused by limited drainage facilities point to the need to provide both sewerage and water schemes as a concurrent operation.

Year 1955/6

COUNCIL HOUSES IN THE OKEHAMPTON RURAL DISTRICT

Parish	*Situation*	*No. of Houses*	*Total No. in Parish*
Beaworthy	Black Hill	2	
	Patchacott	2	4
Belstone	Tor Down	6	6
Bondleigh	Village	4	4
Bratton Clovelly	Beech Cottages	3	3
Bridestowe ...	Princess Elizabeth Terrace	8	
	Brid Close	4	12
Broadwoodkelly ...	The Villas	4	
	Splatt	1	5
Chagford	Dennis Park	33	
	Biera View	8	
	Orchard Meadow	35	
	"Monte Rosa"	5	
	New Street	4	85
Drewsteignton ...	Lamb's Park	4	
	Knowle Lane	4	
	Turnpike Road, Whiddon Down	4	
	Exeter Road, Whiddon Down	4	16
Exbourne	Cawsand View	2	
	The Shrubbery	6	8
Germansweek ...	—	–	–
Gidleigh	—	–	–
Hatherleigh ...	Moor View Terrace ...	12	
	Higher Street	6	
	Normandy Place	4	
	Claremont Place	14	36
Highampton ...	High View	2	2
Iddesleigh	Winkleigh View	4	4
Inwardleigh ...	Misdon Cottages, Folly Gate	6	
	New Road, Folly Gate ...	13	19
	Carried forward ...	204	204

Parish	*Situation*	*No. of Houses*	*Total No. in Parish*
	Brought forward ...	204	204
Jacobstowe ...	—	–	–
Meeth	Station Road	10	10
Monkokehampton ...	East View	2	2
Northlew with Ashbury	Costloes	4	
	Moor View	6	10
North Tawton ...	Barton Hill	16	
	Fore Street	8	
	Essington—Arundell Road	18	42
Okehampton Hamlets	Chichacott	4	
	Peacewater	2	
	Fatherford Flats	5	11
Sampford Courtenay	Four Acres	4	
	Station View	4	
	Cross Hill, Tongue End ...	2	
	Queen Haye, Sticklepath ...	6	16
Sourton	Broad View	4	
	Windard Terrace	6	
	Corn Ridge View, Sourton Down	6	16
South Tawton ...	Hill Crest	8	
	Cross Park, South Zeal ...	10	
	The Croft, South Zeal ...	24	
	Barn Close, Whiddon Down	10	52
Spreyton	Cross Meadow	6	6
Throwleigh ...	Middle Clampitts	4	
	Higher Hay	2	6
	Grand Total ...	375	375

HOUSING PROGRAMME, 1956/7

ESTATE	*No. of houses commenced and completed before 31/3/56*	*No. of houses in course of erection at 31/3/56*	*Sites under consideration*	*Sites selected*	*Lay-out Plans approved*	*House Plans approved*	*No. of houses proposed*	*No. of houses proposed for 1956 programme*	*Anticipated Commencement 1956*	*Anticipated Completion 1956*	*Proposed future development to complete site*	*Ordnance Survey Location*
BELSTONE	—	—	—	*	*	*	6 (T)	—	—	—	—	233
CHAGFORD— Orchard Meadow ...	6 (b)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	586
INWARDLEIGH— New Road ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	39	456
NORTH TAWTON— Essington ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	2 (b)	2 (b)	2 (b)	2 (b)	—	582
SOUTH TAWTON— Cross Park	—	—	—	*	—	—	6 (b)	—	—	—	—	2229
BONDLEIGH	—	—	—	*	—	—	4 (T)	—	—	—	—	326
BROADWOODKELLY ...	2 (T)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	553
EXBOURNE	6 (b)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	140
HIGHAMPTON	—	—	*	—	—	—	4 (T)	—	—	—	—	606
IDDESLEIGH	2 (b)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	618
SPREYTON	—	—	—	*	*	*	4 (b)	—	—	—	—	585
MONKOKEHAMPTON ...	—	—	—	*	—	—	2 (T)	—	—	—	—	155
TOTALS ...	14 (b) 2 (T)	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	12(b) 16 (T)	2 (b) —	2 (b) —	2 (b) —	39 —	— —

SECTION 'E'

Inspection and Supervision of Food

Bacteriological Examination of Milk (Methylene Blue Test)

Description of Milk	*No. of Samples*	*Satisfactory*	*Unsatisfactory*
Ungraded Raw	6	3	3

In the cases where samples failed, faults were found in the methods of machine milking. A sample taken after advice was given proved to be satisfactory.

Unsound Food

Quantities of unsound food inspected during the year resulted in 1 cwt. 2 qrs. 22 lbs. of miscellaneous foodstuffs being voluntarily surrendered by owners and tradesmen as being unfit for human consumption.

Ice Cream

Nine applications for registration of premises for the sale of pre-packed ice cream were approved by the Council.

Slaughterhouses

Two further private slaughterhouses at South Zeal and Hatherleigh were licensed by the Council during the year, the occupiers of which carried out necessary works of improvement, making a total of six private slaughterhouses in the Council's area.

The Council will recollect that licences were granted to butchers in the district to slaughter meat for their own use or on a limited scale for their neighbours. However, in the case of Exbourne, the conditions which were presumed to be imposed have, in my opinion, been most flagrantly violated, in so far that in the heart of this very charming village a large-scale abattoir is in operation slaughtering for the export market, particularly London.

There are two most unsatisfactory results of this conduct. In the first place, a gross nuisance is created to the inhabitants of the village by the effluent from this abattoir entering and fouling the village sewer and, secondly, the staff of the Public Health Department are quite unable to cope with slaughtering on this scale. The law requires that all animals slaughtered shall be inspected at the site of slaughter. To deal with the position at Exbourne would, in my opinion, put a quite unbearable strain on the staff of the department. I have therefore directed on what, in my opinion, are grounds of common sense, that all meat for local or semi-local distribution shall be thoroughly inspected, but that this wholesale slaughtering shall, on the grounds of impossibility, be allowed to be exported without physical inspection. I am fully aware that this is an undesirable practice, but without an increase in staff I cannot see any other solution.

A total of 592 visits was made during the year, both with the licensing of the slaughterhouses and the inspection of meat.

The total number of carcases inspected in the private slaughterhouses during the year was 3,277, which was made up as follows:

Bovines	330
Calves	4
Sheep and Lambs	2,247
Pigs	696

The total weight of meat and offal condemned was 2 tons 4 cwts. 35 lbs.

Details of the number of animals killed and inspected and the carcases, parts or organs condemned are set out in the following table:

Carcases and Offal Inspected and Condemned, in Whole or in Part

	Cattle excluding Cows	*Cows*	*Calves*	*Sheep and Lambs*	*Pigs*	*Horses*
Number killed (if known) ...	314	23	5	6866	943	–
Number inspected	307	23	4	2247	696	–
All diseases except tuberculosis and Cysticerci:— Whole carcases condemned ...	–	–	–	8	–	–
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	216	14	–	207	15	–
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci ...	70.36%	60.87%	–	9.56%	2.16%	–
Tuberculosis only: Whole carcases condemned ...	–	–	–	–	–	–
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	83	13	–	–	22	–
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis ...	27.03%	56.52%	–	–	3.16%	–
Cysticercosis:— Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	–	–	–	–	–	–
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration ...	–	–	–	–	–	–
Generalised and totally condemned ...	–	–	–	–	–	–

Slaughter of Animals Acts, 1933 to 1954

Eighteen applications were received for licences, or renewal of licences, to slaughter or stun animals, and in all cases licences were granted by the Council.

Knackers Yard

Periodical inspections were made of the Knackers Yard at Hatherleigh during the year and any necessary improvements immediately effected.

Food Poisoning

No case of food poisoning was notified during the year.

Samples taken under Section 3, Food & Drugs Act, 1938

The following samples were taken by the County Inspector during the year:

Gin Beer Bisto Beef Sausages (2 samples) Margarine Camphorated Oil Cooking Fat Beef Dripping Beecham's Powder Cornflour Marzipan Milk (77 samples)	All Genuine
Milk	Contained 2 per cent added water. Warning letter sent.

SECTION 'F'

Prevalence of, and Control over, Infectious Disease

Measles occurred in epidemic form during the latter part of the year, and the cases notified by doctors and schools are set out in the accompanying tables.

DIPHTHERIA: Immunisation against this disease continued during the year and no case was recorded.

POLIOMYELITIS: Two cases of this disease of a non-paralytic nature were recorded during the year.

TUBERCULOSIS: One new case of Pulmonary and two new cases of Non-pulmonary Tuberculosis were notified during the year. One death was recorded from the former cause.

At the end of the year 86 cases of tuberculosis remained on the register, as follows:

Pulmonary		*Non-pulmonary*	
Males	29	Males	16
Females	31	Females	10

In conclusion, I would thank the Chairman and Council for the ready hearing I have received at all times, and the sanitary staff and others, who have materially assisted in the preparation of this report.

I am, Mr. Chairman and Councillors,

Your obedient Servant,

E. D. ALLEN-PRICE,

Medical Officer of Health.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED BY MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS

Age	*Scarlet Fever*		*Whooping Cough*		*Measles*		*Pneumonia*		*Erysipelas*		*Acute Poliomyelitis*		*Dysentery*		*Typhoid*	
	M.	*F.*	*M.*	*F.*	*M.*	*F.*	*M.*	*F.*	*M.*	*F.*	*M.*	*F.*	*M.*	*F.*	*M.*	*F.*
Under 1 year	–	–	–	1	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
1–2 years ...	–	–	1	2	7	2	–	–	–	–	1*	–	–	–	–	–
3–4 years ...	–	1	–	2	9	9	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
5–9 years ...	–	–	3	1	23	22	1	–	–	–	1*	–	–	1	–	–
10–14 years ...	–	–	2	–	4	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
15–24 years ...	–	–	–	1	–	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
25 and over ...	–	–	–	–	–	–	3	–	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	1
Age unknown ...	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	1	–	–	–	–	–	–
TOTALS ...	–	1	6	7	44	35	4	–	2	1	2*	–	–	1	–	1

*Non-paralytic

INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED BY SCHOOLS

School	*Chicken Pox*	*Whooping Cough*	*German Measles*	*Mumps*	*Ring-worm*
Bridestowe ...	3	2	–	–	–
Exbourne ...	21	–	–	–	1
Hatherleigh ...	–	–	4	2	–
Northlew & Ashbury	–	–	–	–	1
TOTALS ...	24	2	4	2	2

OKEHAMPTON RURAL DISTRICT WATER SUPPLIES

PARISH	*Whether the water supply of the area and its several parts has been satisfactory (a) in quality (b) in quantity*	*Where there is a piped supply, whether bacteriological examinations were made of the raw water and, where treatment is installed, of the water going into supply; if so, how many and the results obtained; the results of any chemical analyses*	*Where the waters are liable to gave plumbo-solvent action, the facts as to contamination by lead, including precautions taken and number and results of analyses*	*Action in respect of any form of contamination*	*Particulars of the number of dwelling-houses and the number of the population supplied from public water mains: (a) direct to the houses (b) by means of standpipes*			
					No. of Dwelling houses		*Total Population*	
					Main	*Standpipe*	*Main*	*Standpipe*
ASHBURY ...	(a) Satisfactory (b) Satisfactory	Piped supply No analysis	N.D.W.B.	N.D.W.B.	14	—	46	—
BEAWORTHY ...	(a) Satisfactory (b) Satisfactory	Piped supply No analysis	N.D.W.B.	N.D.W.B.	9	—	30	—
BELSTONE ...	(a) Satisfactory (b) Satisfactory	Piped supply. 6 samples taken—5 satis., 1 unsatis.	Nil	Chlorination	75	—	248	—
BONDLEIGH ...	(a) Unsatisfactory (b) Unsatisfactory	No piped supply Wells only	Yes, in the past	Nil	—	—	—	—
BRATTON CLOVELLY ...	(a) Satisfactory (b) Satisfactory	Piped supply No analyses	N.D.W.B.	N.D.W.B.	48	—	158	—
BRIDESTOWE ...	(a) Satisfactory (b) Satisfactory	Piped supply 1 sample taken—satisfcty	N.D.W.B.	N.D.W.B.	80	—	264	—
BROADWOOD-KELLY ...	(a) Satisfactory (b) Satisfactory	Piped supply 2 samples taken-satisfcty	N.D.W.B.	N.D.W.B.	37	—	122	—
CHAGFORD ...	(a) Satisfactory (b) Satisfactory	Piped supply 6 samples taken—5 satisfactory, 1 unsatisfactory	Yes, slight	Chlorination	368	—	1214	—
DREWSTEIGN-TON ...	(a) Satisfactory (b) Satisfactory	Piped supply— 4 samples taken—satisfactory	Yes, but dealt with	Chlorination	80	—	264	—
EXBOURNE ...	(a) Satisfactory (b) Satisfactory	Piped supply 2 samples taken—satisfactory	N.D.W.B.	N.D.W.B.	76	—	251	—
GERMANSWEEK	(a) Doubtful (b) Doubtful	No piped supply Private wells only	In the past	Nil	—	—	—	—
GIDLEIGH ...	(a) Unsatisfactory (b) Doubtful	No piped supply Private supply only	Nil	Nil	—	—	—	—
HATHERLEIGH	(a) Satisfactory (b) Satisfactory	Piped supply No analysis	N.D.W.B.	N.D.W.B.	283	—	934	—
HIGHAMPTON ...	(a) Satisfactory (b) Satisfactory	Piped supply No analysis	N.D.W.B.	N.D.W.B.	37	—	122	—
IDDESLEIGH ...	(a) Satisfactory (b) Satisfactory	Piped supply No analysis	N.D.W.B.	N.D.W.B.	33	—	109	—
INWARDLEIGH	(a) Satisfactory (b) Satisfactory	Piped supply No analysis	N.D.W.B.	N.D.W.B.	64	—	211	—
JACOBSTOWE ...	(a) Satisfactory (b) Satisfactory	Piped supply No analysis	N.D.W.B.	N.D.W.B.	18	—	59	—
MEETH ...	(a) Satisfactory (b) Satisfactory	Piped supply No analysis	N.D.W.B.	N.D.W.B.	12	—	40	—
MONKOKEHAMP-TON	(a) Satisfactory (b) Satisfactory	Piped supply No analysis	N.D.W.B.	N.D.W.B.	26	—	86	—
NORTHLEW ...	(a) Satisfactory (b) Satisfactory	Piped supply No analysis	N.D.W.B.	N.D.W.B.	29	—	96	—
NORTH TAWTON	(a) Satisfactory (b) Satisfactory	Piped supply 13 samples taken—12 satisfactory, 1 unsatis.	No	Chlorination	309	—	1020	—
OKEHAMPTON HAMLETS	(a) Unsatisfactory (b) Unsatisfactory	No piped supply Private wells only	In the past	Nil	—	—	—	—
SAMPFORD COURTENAY	(a) Satisfactory (b) Satisfactory	Piped supply 1 sample taken—satisfactory	N.D.W.B.	N.D.W.B.	66	—	218	—
SOURTON ...	(a) Satisfactory (b) Satisfactory	Piped supply No analysis	N.D.W.B.	N.D.W.B.	43	—	142	—
SOUTH TAWTON	(a) Satisfactory (b) Satisfactory	Piped supply 3 samples taken—2 satisfactory, 1 unsatis.	Nil	Chlorination	250	—	825	—
SPREYTON ...	(a) Satisfactory (b)Unsatisfactory	No piped supply Wells only	No	Nil	—	—	—	—
THROWLEIGH	(a) Satisfactory (b) Satisfactory	Piped supply 6 samples taken—satisfactory	N.D.W.B.	N.D.W.B.	19	—	63	—

N.D.W.B.—North Devon Water Board Main Service